



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

TOPIC: HOW TO DEPLOY A NEW GENERATION FIRE SHELTER
STANDING DROP-DOWN METHOD

LEVEL of INSTRUCTION: Level II

TIME FRAME: :15

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: Given a training fire shelter folded in a case and attached to the belt and a handtool

Behavior: The student will demonstrate how to deploy a fire shelter, using the standing drop-down method under simulated fireline conditions, while wearing full wildland fire personal protective clothing and carrying a handtool

Standard: With a minimum 80% accuracy, within 30 seconds, according to the job breakdown

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- One (1) handtool per student
- One (1) set of full wildland fire protective clothing per student per CAL FIRE policy
- One (1) training fire shelter per student (Regular or Large)
- Performance examination
- Individual score sheets
- One (1) stop watch
- One (1) clip board
- One (1) red pen
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REFERENCES:

- Fire shelter manufacturers' Deployment Procedures
- DVD, Fire Shelter Video and Publication Library, USDA Forest Service 0851-2D10-MTDC, 2008
- The New Generation Fire Shelter, 2003, NWCG, NFES 2710

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PREPARATION:

The fire shelter shall be carried by all CAL FIRE firefighting personnel while actively engaged in wildland fire suppression duties. Shelters are intended to be used only as a last resort when fire entrapment is imminent and escape is not possible. Time is of the essence when deployment becomes necessary. To effectively deploy the shelter and prevent injury in an overrun or entrapment situation, it is imperative that you practice fire shelter deployment until it becomes automatic.



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OPERATIONS	KEY POINTS
1. Select deployment area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1a. Away from rolling material or snagsb. Away from chimneys, draws, steep terrainc. Largest available clearingd. Lightest fuel loadinge. Possible burned over area
2. Clear deployment area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2a. Utilizing existing clearingsb. Clearing a minimum 4' x 8' area if time allowsc. Down to mineral soild. As large as time permitse. Firing out if conditions warrantf. Digging toe holds on slopes of 75% or more
3. Set handtools and equipment aside	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3a. Placing chainsaws, fuels and fusees a minimum of 30' away, side hill and down wind
4. Open carrying case	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4a. Unfastening top flap
5. Pull shelter from carrying case	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5a. Pulling up and outward on yellow/orange pull strapb. Other hand anchoring base of case

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OPERATIONS	KEY POINTS
6. Open plastic protective case	6a. Holding onto yellow/orange pull strap with one hand b. Other hand grasping either red pull ring c. Pulling red pull ring down to the bottom of plastic and extending to top of other side d. Tearing the plastic case
7. Remove shelter from plastic protective case	7a. Fully removing shelter from case
8. Unfold the shelter accordion folds	8a. Grasping the shake handles marked “RIGHT HAND” and “LEFT HAND” with appropriate hand b. Shaking shelter in front of you c. Extending to full length d. Without releasing shelter
9. Shake open shelter tri-fold	9a. Extending fully b. Without releasing shelter c. Shelter opening facing you
10. Open shelter	10a. Without releasing shelter b. Using feet to anchor end of shelter as needed c. Using free hand for further extension d. Sides, ends, and peak fully extended

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OPERATIONS	KEY POINTS
11. Enter shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11a. Stepping in through openingb. Without releasing shelterc. Turning to face out of openingd. Facing away from oncoming firee. Feet anchoring lower endf. Ensuring entire body is inside shelterg. Crouching down low enough to pull head and upper body into opening
12. Drop to ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none">12a. Dropping to kneesb. Lying flat on stomachc. Feet toward oncoming fire
13. Position body and shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">13a. Facing away from oncoming fireb. Feet anchoring lower endc. Pushing out shelter with one hand at a time to maximize airspace inside shelter
14. Anchor shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">14a. Maintaining maximum airspace inside shelterb. Placing arms through side hold-down straps, extending up to elbowsc. Maintaining body positiond. Maintaining full perimeter ground to shelter seal

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Fire Crew Firefighter Training

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APPLICATION:

The students will work in groups of two and practice deployment of the fire shelter while being supervised and coached by the instructor.

EVALUATION:

The student will complete a manipulative performance test at a time determined by the instructor.

ASSIGNMENT:

Practice shelter deployment in preparation for the upcoming performance test.